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ABSTRACT

Written by a team of graduate student teachers, this collection of papers focuses on the challenges of teaching at-risk students and the development of successful classroom strategies. The first chapter, "Kids in Need: The Teachers' Perspective," addresses Hispanic children in poverty, the effects of poverty on academic achievement, and recommendations to help schools to get Hispanic children involved and interested. In the second chapter, "Teenage Pregnancy: Where are the Dads?" the effects of the lack of a father on children and a school-based prevention program to decrease risky sexual behaviors of adolescent students are discussed. Chapter 3, "'Let's Ask the Kids': The ESL Perspective," describes the outcome of a study that investigated the reactions of 30 Spanish-speaking students to the bilingual programs they had experienced and presents recommendations for improving bilingual programs. In the fourth chapter, "The Epidemic of School Violence in the U.S.: A Statistical Brief," statistics on violence in junior high and high school campuses are provided, while Chapter 5, "Chicks on Crack: Effects at Birth and Beyond," discusses the results of studies exploring the prenatal effects of crack cocaine. Chapter 6, "Who's Hurting Who? Violence Is in Education," presents data on environmental factors that cause criminal violence and offers strategies for reducing the risk. "What Will It Be: Excitement or Apathy? The Learning Style Dilemma: What's a Teacher to Do?" (Chapter 7) outlines different types of student learning styles, discusses cultural influences on learning styles, and provides recommendations for teaching strategies. In Chapter 8, "Homework: Inclusion of Parents in the Education Equation," the importance of parental participation is highlighted, and the final chapter, "How to Survive in the Blackboard Jungle: The Quest for Effective Classroom Management," lists behaviors of an effective classroom manager and provides classroom management techniques. Each paper contains references. (ND)

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